



# Town of Mesilla, New Mexico

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

### TOWN OF MESILLA

### BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2016

6:00 P.M.

**TRUSTEES:** Nora L. Barraza, Mayor  
Stephanie Johnson-Burick, Mayor Pro Tem  
Carlos Arzabal, Trustee  
Jesus Caro, Trustee  
Linda L. Flores, Trustee

**STAFF:** Cynthia Stoechner-Hernandez, Town Clerk/Treasurer  
Kevin Hoban, Fire Chief  
Debbie Lujan, Public Works Director  
Lance Shepan, Sergeant  
Enrique Salas, Sergeant  
Gloria Maya, Recorder

**PUBLIC:** Bill McCamley Greg White

#### 1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Barraza led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### 2. ROLL CALL & DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

##### Roll Call.

**Present:** Mayor Barraza, Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick, Trustee Arzabal, Trustee Caro, Trustee Flores.

#### 3. CHANGES/APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Trustee Arzabal requested placing item 7a on the consent agenda.

37 **Motion: To approve agenda, Moved by Trustee Arzabal, Seconded by Trustee Flores.**

38  
39 **Roll Call Vote: Motion passed (summary: Yes = 4).**

40 **Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick Yes**

41 **Trustee Arzabal Yes**

42 **Trustee Caro Yes**

43 **Trustee Flores Yes**

44  
45 **Motion: To approve agenda as amended, Moved by Trustee Arzabal, Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem**  
46 **Johnson-Burick.**

47  
48 **Roll Call Vote: Motion passed (summary: Yes = 4).**

49 **Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick Yes**

50 **Trustee Arzabal Yes**

51 **Trustee Caro Yes**

52 **Trustee Flores Yes**

53  
54 **4. PRESENTATION:**

- 55 **a.** Recognition of Don Apodaca for his dedicated service to the Town of Mesilla and for serving  
56 on the Planning, Zoning, and Historical Appropriateness Commission. – **Nora L. Barraza,**  
57 **Mayor.**

58 Mayor Barraza recognized Dr. Don Apodaca for his dedicated service to the Town of Mesilla and thanked  
59 him for serving on the Planning, Zoning, and Historical Appropriateness Commission. There are a couple  
60 of applicants which will be interviewed to fill his position.

61  
62 **5. PUBLIC INPUT** – The public is invited to address the Board for up to 3 minutes.

63 Rep. Bill McCamley stated the Town of Mesilla is the only area in his district that does not have a  
64 lobbyist. He reviewed the Special Session.

- 65 - Recommended encumbering projects as soon as possible  
66 - Restructuring of the Capital Outlay process  
67 - Hold Harmless should be consistent as before  
68 - 5% cut at the university level  
69 - 5% cut at the school districts  
70 - Cuts at the Department of Health

71  
72 Mayor Barraza stated the death penalty bill passed the House but did not pass the Senate.

Rep. McCamley responded the Senate focused on the budget and will look at it during the regular session.

Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick thanked Rep. McCamley for taking the time to come to our meeting to give us an update.

Mr. Garcia stated he went to church at 5:30 p.m. and the noise was real bad. The beer tent was right in front of the church. He could not believe that; it should not have happened. The parking lot belongs to the church. He spoke to the people from the church and they told him they did not give permission. He was surprised on that. Sunday evening, he heard about the motorcycle accident. He saw everyone going by and low and behold he saw Mesilla Fire Truck going up there. They couldn't go across the street to turn off the fire but they are way the hell up there. They need to get their priority straight. He just stood there watching and could not believe it. He tried to bring it to his [Chief Hoban] attention. Last week the Fire Chief talked about the smoke detectors; last year he asked for one for his dad but he never showed up with it. He asked him if he had the names of the people he gave a detector to but he told me he could not release the names. He asked if they are sure they gave them out to the residents but he just blew me off.

**6. \*APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA – The Board will be asked to approve by one motion the following items of recurring or routine business. The Consent Agenda is marked with an asterisk \*:**

**Motion: To approve consent agenda as amended, Moved by Trustee Arzabal, Seconded by Trustee Flores.**

**Roll Call Vote: Motion passed (summary: Yes = 4).**

**Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick Yes**

**Trustee Arzabal Yes**

**Trustee Caro Yes**

**Trustee Flores Yes**

**a. \*BOT MINUTES** – Regular Meeting minutes of Monday, September 26, 2016. *Approved by consent agenda*

**b. \*PZHAC Case 060403** – 2392 Calle de Parian, submitted by Yolanda Lucero; a building permit to allow an addition to a small storage unit at this location. Zoned: Historical Residential (HR). *Approved by consent agenda*

- c. **\*PZHAC Case 060430** – 2202 Calle de Picacho, submitted by Robert Taylor; a request for a building permit to allow construction of a 4’ by 8’ well house at the rear of the property at this address. Zoned: Historical Residential (HR). *Approved by consent agenda*
- d. **\*PZHAC Case 60431 w/conditions**– 2250 Calle de Picacho, submitted by Leonard Gambrel and Lori Miller; a request for a building permit to allow a four-foot-high decorative wrought iron style fence at the front and around a corner of a property at this address. Zoned: Historic Residential (HR). *Approved by consent agenda*
- e. **\*PZHAC Case 060433** – 2630 Calle de Santiago, submitted by Jose A. Gallegos; a request for a building permit to allow construction of a two-foot-high rock wall along the west edge of the property. Zoned: Historic Residential (HR). *Approved by consent agenda*
- f. **\*PZHAC Case 060435** – 2958 La Mesilla Circle, submitted by Bob Hamilton and Kathleen Foreman; a request for a building permit to remove and replace an existing carport with a larger carport at this address. Zoned: Historical Residential (HR). *Approved by consent agenda*
- g. **\*Resolution 2016-19**: A resolution authorizing the destruction of Fire and Marshal files pursuant to §32A-2-32 NMSA 1978. *Approved by consent agenda*

## 7. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. For approval: A contract for professional services between the Town of Mesilla and Souder Miller & Associates for the purposes of design and technical specifications for the Calle de Santa Ana Road Improvements Project. – **Debbie Lujan, Public Works Director.** *Approved by consent agenda*

## 8. \*STAFF REPORTS:

Community Development  
Community Programs  
Finance Department  
Fire Department  
Marshal’s Department  
Public Works Department

144       **9. BOARD OF TRUSTEE COMMENTS**

145       Trustee Flores stated the Pecan Fest was beyond awesome.

146  
147       Trustee Arzabal stated the Pecan Fest was a very nice event.

148  
149       Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-Burick stated the Pecan Fest was a huge success; great event. She also  
150       wondered how the beer and wine tent was going to work. She noticed that yesterday at 2:00 p.m. it was  
151       difficult to get through the street due to the rentals not being picked up. She heard, for the most part,  
152       positive comments.

153  
154       Ms. Parra responded there were a number of concerns brought to her concern. Since it was a brand new  
155       event things were done differently. She had already spoken to the organizer who is not from the area.  
156       Companies from Albuquerque were used for this event which caused a delay in equipment being picked  
157       up. Ms. Parra recommended local companies to be used for next year to the Pecan Fest Committee. We  
158       spoke to the church to address the concerns with regards to parking and noise. She is requesting feedback  
159       from the businesses. She has received a number of positive responses. They have indicated record  
160       number in sales. We are open to constructive criticism to improve for next year.

161  
162       Mayor Barraza stated we discussed the music situation; during our events music is not scheduled during  
163       mass time. The schedule was made prior to Ms. Parra being aware of it. She stated that will not reoccur  
164       for next year.

165  
166       Trustee Caro stated his concerns from his point of view, cited statues:

167               -Festival was a success but appeared to be very chaotic.

168               -He felt like a stranger

169               -People smoking, dogs all over the place, dogs got into a fight, some dogs can get stressed out in  
170               crowds.

171               -The town cannot afford a potential liability

172               -Beer tent was about 50 ft. away from the church instead of the required 300 ft.

173               -The area looked over crowded

174               -Equipment was placed on the grass where we do not allow our employees to drive

175               -Band stand was placed on the south end

176               -Everything should be taken down immediately

177               -Ms. Parra attended several committee meetings; it is beyond him why she did not give them our  
178               rules.

179               -She does not appreciate so many things go to the contrary

180 -He asked an officer about the dogs and he responded Ms. Parra told him they were allowed on  
181 the plaza  
182 -The Pecan Fest did not come to the board for approval nor did a special dispenser permit  
183 -We should have been informed of the location of the beer tent  
184 - Received a verbal complaint from the church that they were not informed of the beer tent and  
185 were not given the respect  
186 -They did not appreciate them being set up in front of the church  
187 -Father Richard was not allowed to drive around the barriers to his home  
188 -Semi Truck, which are not allowed in the area, was unload in the area  
189 -Around 80% of the merchants were satisfied with the event.  
190 He recommends resolving these issues if this is to become an annual event before they get worse.  
191  
192 Mayor Barraza responded dogs are allowed on the plaza; the town specifically requests that dogs are not  
193 allowed on the plaza during an event. It is up to the individual to indicate if they do not want pets on the  
194 plaza. The organizers did not request that. There are “No Smoking” signs posted on the plaza. The event  
195 hired their own full security for the event that should have enforced the no smoking; our officers were  
196 there out of courtesy.  
197  
198 Ms. Stoechner-Hernandez responded the Town of Mesilla is a Local Option District; board can allow beer  
199 and wine sales within 300 ft. of a school and a church. The state has the final approval.  
200  
201 Mayor Barraza stated we have weighed out the pros and cons, and the church concerns. The church  
202 officials indicated that Trustee Caro had gone to ask them if they had concerns or complaints. They said  
203 Trustee Caro made the initial contact. With regards to the funeral on Friday; the church was sent  
204 correspondence informing them of the week’s activities. We would have made arrangements had we  
205 known about the funeral. She called Ms. Parra, who was already taking care of the situation, when Greg  
206 called her. We relayed to the organizers that we do not prevent the church from doing what they need to  
207 do. We agreed we need to do a better job of communicating. The Jazz Happening has set up their stage  
208 on the south side. The only thing different was the platform.  
209  
210 Ms. Parra responded it was more accommodating for the band; more efficient with all of their equipment.  
211  
212 Mayor Barraza stated Ms. Parra communicated to her that the rentals were from Albuquerque and would  
213 be picked up on Monday. We will make that a condition for next year. The organizer had to get liability  
214 insurance of \$1 million dollars.  
215

216 Ms. Parra stated the beer and wine tent was on town property, not on Church property.  
217  
218 Mayor Barraza responded the parking lot belongs to the town. She was aware of the Father Richard  
219 incident and he was allowed enter his home after some time. It all comes down to communication.  
220  
221 Trustee Caro stated we need to give them a set of our celebration rules: smoking, pets, etc. We should not  
222 give them a choice. He understands she was not directly involved but they need to be aware of our rules.  
223  
224 Ms. Parra stated there is a fine line when approving an event.  
225  
226 Trustee Caro stated you are not telling them what to do, you are telling them our rules.  
227  
228 Ms. Parra responded dogs on the plaza is not a standing rule, dogs are allowed on the plaza.  
229  
230 Trustee Caro responded they shouldn't be.  
231  
232 Mayor Barraza stated Ms. Parra did tell them how things are done. This was the first Pecan Fest so we  
233 need to weigh out the pros and the cons. We will get back together to see what need to be done to make it  
234 a better event.  
235  
236 Ms. Parra stated there are two lessons we can learn from the organizers; turning the vendors toward the  
237 street which created traffic for the merchants who had their doors open. The merchants felt a part of the  
238 festival. The vendors were allowed to utilize the lot catty-corner from the Fountain Theatre for parking.  
239  
240 Mayor Barraza stated it was a very successful event.  
241  
242 Trustee Caro stated Ms. Martha Quesada had something she wanted to give to me but it was given to  
243 Trustee Arzabal.  
244  
245 Trustee Arzabal responded this cannot be discussed as it is into litigation. He gave the paperwork to Ms.  
246 Stoechner-Hernandez.  
247  
248 Ms. Stoechner-Hernandez responded it is a tort claim.  
249  
250 Mayor Barraza appreciated the update from Rep. Bill McCamley. The Fire Department will be active at  
251 Mesilla Elementary due to Fire Prevention Week. The next board meeting will be Monday, October 24<sup>th</sup>.

## 10. ADJOURNMENT

**The Town of Mesilla Trustees unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting. (Summary: Yes-4)**

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:37 P.M.**

**APPROVED THIS 26th DAY OF OCTOBER, 2016.**

Nora L. Barraza  
Mayor

**ATTEST:**

Cynthia Stoechner-Hernandez  
Town Clerk/Treasurer

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